

EXCISE.

SUBJECT No. 261.

Patels and Shanbhogs to be authorised to collect toddy khists.
 Mr. Hutcheeregowda, Gubbi Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—The system of toddy vend farmers paying the toddy khists direct to Treasury, is likely to allow the khists to fall into arrears. If village patels and shanbhogs are authorised to collect such khists, prompt payment of such khists will be secured.

Reply of Government.—No change is called for.

SUBJECT No. 262.

Cancellation of the rates fixed for the sale of arrack.
 Messrs. Srinivasa Rao and Rama Rao of Malur Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—The system of selling arrack, toddy and ganja shops by public auction, appears to take the form of gambling. The sale amount and duty paid to Government comes to more than what the vendor gets in the bargain. He therefore naturally resorts to the mode of practising deceit on the consumers to make good the loss accruing to him. The rate fixed by Government for the sale of liquors should therefore be cancelled.

Reply of Government.—It is not clear what the member wants. No change of the system is called for.

SUBJECT No. 263.

Graduated dram glass tumblers for arrack shops.
 Messrs. Srinivasa Rao and Rama Rao of Malur Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—Arrangements may be made to supply the arrack shops with graduated dram glass tumblers.

Withdrawn.

SUBJECT No. 264.

Holding the sale of toddy and arrack shops once in three years.
 Mr. D. Srikanta Rao, Devanahalli Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—The annual sale of toddy and arrack shops has been a source of great loss to the contractor. The same may advantageously be held once in three years.

Reply of Government.—Last year's reply holds good. Further experience of the present system for two or three years is necessary before any change can be considered.

SUBJECT No. 265.

Free grant of bagani trees for drawing toddy.
 Messrs. G. Channabasappa Gowda, Nagar Taluk, and Srinivasa Rao of Chikmagalur Taluk.
 The members were absent but Mr. Vasudeva Rao spoke.

Summary of discussion.—(a) Bagani trees may be freely granted to the occupants of lands on which they grow and to their raiyats, if any, provided they make *bona fide* use of them for drawing toddy.

(b) It is requested that Malnad gowdas and coffee planters may be permitted to use bagani toddy free of any charge.

Reply of Government.—The Government have already decided that the extension of the existing privilege was neither called for nor desirable (*vide* Government Order No. Fl. 1331-5—S. R. 9-05-3, dated 25th August 1905).

SUBJECT No. 266.

Tree-tax on toddy trees in occupied lands.
 Mr. Sivananjappa, Tiptur Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—Requests that the occupants of lands may be given the tree-tax on toddy trees growing on their lands just like the Inamdars, and that they may also